

Application No. 09/558,266

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATIONIn the Specification

Please substitute the following amended paragraph(s) and/or section(s) (deleted matter is shown by strikethrough and added matter is shown by underlining):

At page 31, lines 3-13, please replace the paragraph with the following:

The production of silicon oxide nanoparticles is described in copending and commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/085,514, now U.S. Patent 6,726,990 to Kumar et al., entitled "Silicon Oxide Particles," incorporated herein by reference. This patent application describes the production of amorphous SiO<sub>2</sub>. The synthesis by laser pyrolysis of silicon carbide and silicon nitride is described in copending and commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/433,202 to Reitz et al. filed on November 5, 1999, entitled "Particle Dispersions," incorporated herein by reference.